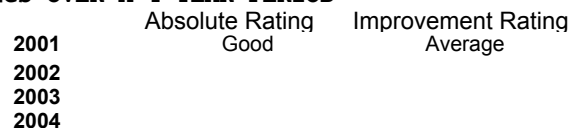


**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Good  
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Average

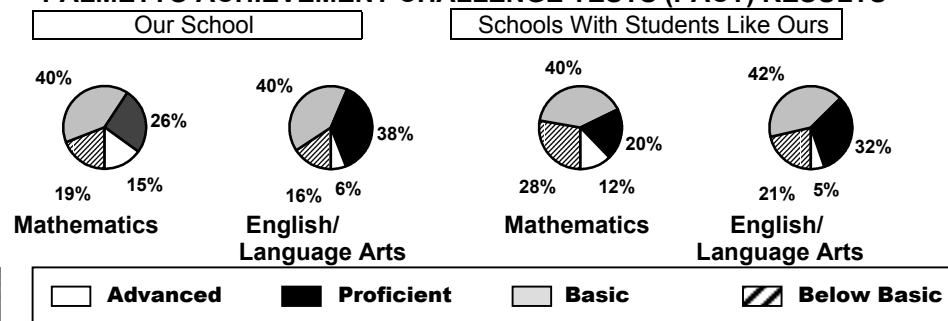
Number of middle schools with students similar to ours: 25. The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from average to excellent. For the improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

#### RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

#### PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



#### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- **Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- **Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- **Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on 2004 School Report Cards. Social studies scores are to be reported on 2005 School Report Cards.

#### PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT

Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
<b>All students (n=507)</b>	84.2%	80.9%	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=54)	66.7%	61.8%		
Students without disabilities (n=452)	86.5%	83.4%		
<b>Gender</b>				
Male (n=284)	83.8%	81.7%		
Female (n=222)	85.1%	80.2%		
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African American (n=159)	64.2%	62%		
Hispanic (n=2)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=344)	93.6%	89.9%		
Other (n=1)	N/A	N/A		
<b>Lunch Status Group</b>				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=120)	64.2%	60%		
Pay for lunch (n=386)	90.7%	87.6%		

#### SCHOOL PROFILE INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
<b>SCHOOL</b>				
• Dollars spent per student	\$4,905	N/A	\$4,635	\$5,127
• Prime instructional time	90.3%	Down from 90.4%	90.1%	89.6%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.4 to 1	N/A	23.8 to 1	21.4 to 1
<b>STUDENTS (n=558)</b>				
• Attendance rate	95.3%	No change	95.9%	95.7%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	4.2%	N/A	2.2%	4.5%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	4%	N/A	1.9%	4.0%
• Retention rate	7%	Up from 3.8%	1.7%	4.5%
<b>TEACHERS (n=35)</b>				
• Professional Development days per teacher	11 Days	Up from 7.3	7.4 Days	8.0 Days
• Attendance Rate	96.8%	Up from 96.4%	95.1%	95.2%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	54.3%	Down from 56.8%	46.3%	45.8%
• Continuing contract teachers	94.3%	Down from 97.3%	84.4%	80.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	Down from 5.4%	1.3%	2.4%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	78.9%	Down from 80.9%	85.1%	83.7%
• Average teacher salary	\$39,920	Up 7.9%	\$38,260	\$37,455

#### SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
<b>SCHOOL</b>				
• Dropout rate	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	71.7%	N/A	62.7%	61.5%
• Principal's years at the school	2	N/A	3	3.0
• Parents attending conferences	38.8%	N/A	71.6%	78.2%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• On academic plans	N/A	N/A	38.2%	45.8%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	7.9%	Up from 6.1%	2.1%	4.5%
• Suspended or expelled	49	N/A	11	15
• Enrolled in high school credit courses	27%	N/A	24.6%	13.2%
• Gifted and talented	18.8%	Down from 19.7%	17.8%	12.1%
• With disabilities other than speech	15.3%	Up from 13.4%	11.3%	13.6%



## PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

The year 2000 has been a year of unprecedented academic growth for our 554 students. PACT scores illustrate that our students score among the highest in the tri-county region. Indeed, our small size allows us to work with students on a friendly, personalized basis. Laing students have achieved major academic awards in the Lowcountry Science Fair, History Day competition, essay contests, and numerous academic competitions. Our award-winning faculty is the finest with 60% holding advanced degrees. Laing has the most teachers with National Board Certification of any Charleston County School District middle school. Our school strategic plan places our primary emphasis on Language Arts and Mathematics achievement. To this end, we have added our second computer lab, this one utilizing state-of-the-art PLATO software. While our emphasis is on academics, we are extremely proud of our arts and foreign language programs. The band has received national awards and the chorus won top honors at the 2000 State Choral Festival. Although the challenges facing educators are many, we continue to enjoy our life's work of teaching children. We invite you to join us in a combined effort to promote academic excellence at Laing Middle School.

Kathy Sobolewski, Principal

### EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	100.0	62.9	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	96.8	71.7	
Satisfied with home-school relations	71.0	84.3	

### DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

**Excellent** – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Good** – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average** – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average** – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory** – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1001051

Laing Middle  
2213 Highway 17 North  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Grades 6-8 Middle School

Enrollment: 558 Students

### Principal

Kathy Sobolewski 843-849-2809

### Superintendent

Dr. Ronald A. McWhirt 843-937-6319

### Board Chair

Ms. Elizabeth H. Alston 843-723-0941

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School  
Report Card

2001



School Grade:  
Good

### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at  
[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)